

The Newberg-Dundee Police Department Traffic Safety Team along with the Newberg Graphic Newspaper has decided to devote a column to traffic safety every quarter in an attempt to minimize common violations committed by drivers, pedestrians, and bicyclists.

It is our department's goal to increase traffic safety, which is accomplished through enforcement and education. This quarters Traffic Safety Tip focuses on the many uncontrolled intersections in Newberg and Dundee.

An uncontrolled intersection is a road intersection where no traffic lights or signs are used to indicate the right-of-way. Mostly, uncontrolled intersections are unmarked. However, in some locations, motorists may be warned by road signage or a warning light. They are found in either residential neighborhoods or in rural areas.

NDPD Officers respond to many motor vehicle crashes involving uncontrolled intersections. Since it's not practical to place stop signs at all intersections, It's a drivers responsibility to their fellow drivers to pay extra attention when approaching an uncontrolled intersection. Never assume the another driver will yield the right of way to you. Slow down, look, and be prepared to stop.

Oregon Revised Statute 811.275 requires drivers to yield and give way to any other driver on the RIGHT simultaneously approaching a given point, regardless of which driver first reaches and enters the intersection. Failure to yield right of way at an uncontrolled intersection is a Class B traffic violation, subject to a \$260.00 fine.

The NDPD takes an active approach to traffic safety. It is our agency's obligation to the community to protect and enhance the livability of Newberg and Dundee, and promote individual responsibility. Please contact us at (503) 538-8321 with any questions.

Drew Boggs is a senior motor officer with the Newberg-Dundee Police Department's traffic safety team.